

# Virginia Emergency Operations Center (VEOC)

Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM)

Virginia Emergency Response Team (VERT)

## PATRICK COUNTY WILDFIRE

### SITUATION REPORT # 5

1500 Hours April 19, 2006

*New Information in Bold Italics*

*The next Situation Report will be 20 April 2006 at 1500 hours.*

### SUMMARY

Patrick County and Virginia Department of Forestry resources are fighting a wildfire on Bull Mountain that began on 14 April and has burned over 4000 acres, destroyed 3 homes, 6 structures, and personal property. The estimated value of lost property is \$500,000. The fire on Bull Mountain forced the evacuation of 40 families. The fire is being managed utilizing a Unified Command at VDOT's field office on US 57 West of Elamsville. ***Over 100 homes and numerous other structures and vehicles were protected as a result of actions taken by the Virginia Department of Forestry and fire departments.***

### EXECUTIVE ACTION

**EOC Activation:** The Virginia VEOC is at Increased Readiness condition.

**State of Emergency:** On April 15, 2006, Governor Timothy M. Kaine declared a state of emergency to exist for Patrick County to assist in responding to this wildfire. Governor Kaine directed appropriate assistance be rendered by agencies of the state government to respond to assist in Patrick County to alleviate adverse conditions created by the wildfire.

**Federal Declaration:** Federal Emergency Management Agency, Region 3, advised that they received approval for a Fire Management Assistance Grant. Declaration number 2637. ***FEMA/State agreement is being executed.***

**Protective Actions:** Local Emergency Declared: Patrick County declared a local emergency on April 15, 2006.

**Schools:** ***Patrick County schools reopened Wednesday 19 April.***

### WEATHER

**Forecast:** ***Patrick County: NWS Blacksburg- This Afternoon: Mostly sunny, with a high near 75. Light south wind. Tonight: Mostly clear, with a low around 44. Light and variable wind. Thursday, April 20: Mostly sunny, with a high around 83. Calm wind becoming south between 5 and 8 mph. Thursday Night: A slight chance of showers after 2am. Partly cloudy, with a low near 54. Southwest wind between 3 and 7 mph. Chance of precipitation is 20%.***

### OPERATIONS SECTION

**Local Liaison:** VDEM Local Support Services Division Region Six Coordinator is on scene.

**Legislative Liaison:** Distributing situation reports to legislators in affected localities and to Congressman Boucher's office.

## EMERGENCY SERVICES BRANCH

### ***ESF 4 – Firefighting:***

Virginia Department of Forestry (VDOF)

The VDOF has an Incident Management Team, **41** personnel, **two** bulldozers and two helicopters assisting with fire suppression. ***Fire contained at 85 percent, with 100% containment projected for tonight.*** VDOF advised they have 1 Federal Hot Shot team, and 1 Type II team, ***for a total of 65 personnel***, on scene assisting with fire suppression. Va. Dept. of Fire Programs Division 6 Chief providing Mobile Incident Support. VDOF is utilizing cabins at the VA. Dept. of Conservation and Recreation's Fairystone State Park facility as shelters for VDOF personnel. ***A "burn-out" operation is underway today to help secure the established control lines. Completion of the "burn-out" is expected later this evening.***

### ***ESF 13 - Public Safety & Security:***

Virginia Department of Military Affairs/National Guard (VDMA/VNG)

Governor Kaine authorized mobilization of 46 National Guard soldiers to assist Patrick County and VDOF with fire suppression activities and evacuation. The National Guard personnel were released from state active duty at approximately 1200 hours 18 April.

## INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT BRANCH

### ***ESF 1 – Transportation:***

Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)

VDOT is assisting with road closures as requested by the Incident Management Team and the VDOT Residency Shop in Stuart, Virginia is being utilized as the Incident Command Post.

## LOGISTICS SECTION

### ***ESF 7 – Resource Support:***

Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM)

The VEOC is coordinating requests for assistance from the locality and state agencies. Verizon supplied a communication tower and telephones at the Incident Command (IC) post.

## LOCAL ACTIVITIES

***All Patrick County residents have been permitted to return to their homes. The public shelter at Smith River Rescue Squad Building is closed. In addition to VDOF and Incident Management personnel, local and neighboring fire departments include 35 personnel on scene.***

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